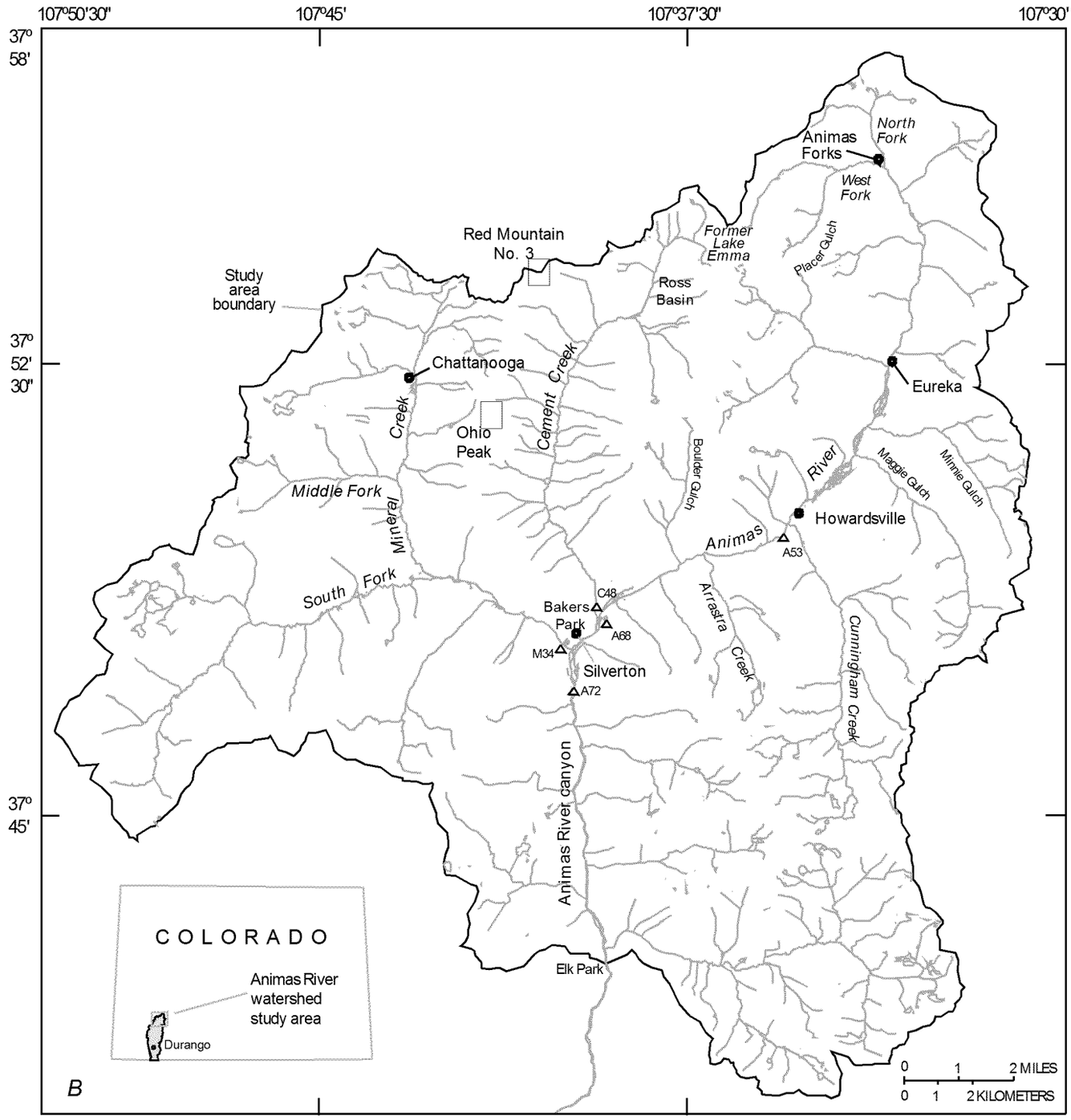


**Figure 2—Continued.** Animas River watershed study area. *B*, location of features in text. Small triangle, streamflow gauging station.

areas with the greatest precipitation and hydraulic conductivity. Ground-water discharge, in the form of numerous seeps and small springs, occurs in topographic lows and at breaks in land-surface slope. Ground-water flow paths, from recharge to discharge areas, are short (commonly less than a few thousand feet). Regional ground-water flow is limited by the very low permeability of the bedrock. The upper, thin unit of unconsolidated deposits has the highest hydraulic conductivity. The uppermost, fractured and weathered zone in the igneous bedrock has a lower hydraulic conductivity than the unconsolidated deposits. Fractures are the major conduits for ground-water flow in bedrock, with more flow in the uppermost zone where the fractures are weathered and open.